



Press Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Larisa Mendez Downes
(718) 210-0705 ext. 104
E-mail: larisa@nsna.org

Leader of Leaders Award Recipient Patricia Dufrene Lauded at 56th Annual NSNA Convention in Grapevine, TX



Brooklyn, NY. April 15, 2008. Patricia Dufrene, MSN, RN, CNS, was recognized as NSNA's Leader of Leaders at the March 27, 2008 Plenary Session of the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) 56th Annual Convention in Grapevine, TX.

The Leader of Leaders Award, sponsored by Elsevier, proud publisher of Mosby and Saunders nursing titles, is presented to an outstanding dean, faculty advisor, or state consultant who has provided exceptional commitment to his or her students and to NSNA.

Ms. Dufrene is a Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of the Nursing Learning Resource Center (NLRC)/Simulation Lab at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Nursing in Little Rock, AR. She has been teaching for over five years and during that time has been continuously involved as a class and chapter advisor, and won the UAMS Student Nurses Association Chapter Advisor of the Year Award in 2007.

- more -

Ms. Dufrene has over 20 years experience as a nurse and in 2005 assumed the role of director of the NLRC/Simulation Lab at UAMS. Her lab includes three simulators – two of which she acquired through grants – fifteen hospital beds with task-training, mannequins, six out-patient exam areas, and multiple-task training equipment for undergraduate and graduate nursing students. She is considered passionate, dedicated to her work and students, and encouraging, actively promoting student involvement in clubs, organizations, and NSNA's Leadership University.

Involved with NSNA since 1982, Ms. Dufrene is described by student Lucy Amber Cyphers as a “nursing advisor who not only advises students on academic matters, but who takes the time to show her passion for nursing through her daily activities, motivates fellow colleagues to teach with heart and soul, and inspires those around her to never give up.”

Among her many other activities and achievements, Ms. Dufrene is the President of the Arkansas Society of Pediatric Nurses, and the Gamma Xi-First Counselor, the UAMS chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.

##

NSNA is a membership organization representing over 50,000 students in Associate Degree, Diploma, Baccalaureate, generic Masters and generic Doctoral programs preparing students for Registered Nurse licensure, as well as RNs in BSN completion programs.